

District recognizes 51 staff

THOMAS M. KENNEDY
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN SERVICES

On Monday, October 20, 2003, fifty-one educators from the district were recognized for their recent attainment of Professional Status with the Shrewsbury Public Schools. Professional status is awarded to teachers who have demonstrated excellence to the Shrewsbury Public Schools through their work and commitment to students. A teacher is eligible to receive professional status after three full years of work in the district during which time the individual is thoroughly evaluated, on an annual basis, in all facets of their performance.

While professional status is universal in all public schools in Massachusetts, the Shrewsbury Public Schools is among a small group of districts in the state that recognize this important achievement through a formal reception. This year's event was held at The Hoagland-Pincus Conference Center, which is located on the Shrewsbury campus of the University of Massachusetts Medical School on Maple Avenue.

This year's recognition of fifty-one individuals is symbolic of the growth the district has witnessed. When this group of honorees interviewed for their positions in the spring of 2000 there were 4512 students in the district. As these fifty-one educators commence their fourth year of teaching in the district the student population has risen to 5564 students, an increase of 1052 students! The number of staff recognized at this year's reception was more than the combined groups for 2001 and 2002.

A special "thank you" is extended to the district's PTO groups and the Shrewsbury Education Association, who join the school department as co-sponsors of the event. Each person receiving professional status was individually recognized and received a small gift to remember the occasion. The reception was well attended as nearly one hundred people, including building principals, assistant principals, department directors, SEA officers, central office administrators, the entire school committee, and PTO representatives from the schools joined the honorees and their personal guests. The event included a formal recognition program along with an opportunity for the attendees to enjoy the company of one another and sample a variety of delicious hors d'oeuvres.

The staff recognized this year along with their teaching area:

HIGH SCHOOL: **Jennifer Avedian**-English, **Kathleen Gruska**-Family and Consumer Science, **Gary Klauminzer**-Mathematics, **Kathleen Lange-Madden**-English as a Second Language, **Jeffrey Mazza**-Science, **Maureen Monopoli**-Social Studies, **Barbara O'Connor**-Science, **Kimberly Plourde**-Foreign Language, **Paula Toti**-Physical Education, **Danielle Viva**-Visual Arts.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: **Lisa Daley**-Grade Eight Language Arts, **Janet Duggan**-Grade Six Math/Science, **Jane Goddard**-Grade Six Language Arts/Social Studies, **Mary Kwiatkowski**-Grade Six Math/Science, **Jennifer Ludovico**-Grade Seven Special Education, **Kimberly Nikula**-Health, **Charissa Korobov**-Grade Seven Mathematics, **Kelly O'Connell**-School Adjustment Counselor, **Michele Raymond**-Grade Eight Special Education, **Patricia Robbins**-Grade Eight Mathematics, **Mindy Sefton**-School Psychologist, **Kelli Waterman**-Grade Eight Social Studies.

BEAL EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER: **Kristin Connolly**- Special Education ABA Coordinator, **Elizabeth Koppe**-Kindergarten, **Karen Kowaleski**-Special Education, **Michele Thayer**-Kindergarten, **Laura Williams**-Literacy Director/Reading Specialist.



PHOTO BY BOB STEARNS

Spring Street School, from left to right: Donna Rudek (parent and PTO representative), Karen Smith (Grade 5 teacher), Mary Beth Banios (principal), Kathryn Lweis (Grade 1 teacher.)



PHOTO BY BOB STEARNS

Coolidge School, from left to right: Kerri Reid (parent and PTO representative), Denise Johnson (parent and PTO representative), Michael Lapomardo (music teacher), Valerie Lancini (special education teacher), and Margery Clark (Coolidge principal.)



PHOTO BY BOB STEARNS

Beal School, Dr. Judy Rogers, Laura Williams, Elizabeth Koppe, Karen Kowaleski, Michele Thayer and Maggie Geronimi (parent.)

COOLIDGE SCHOOL: **Valerie Lanciani**-Special Education, **Anne Ross**-Grade One.

FLORAL STREET SCHOOL: **Sarah McBride**-Grade Four, **Elaine Morgan**-Grade Four, **Ellen O'Leary**-Special Education Speech Pathologist, **Carol Peterson**-Grade Two, **Erin Pickett**-Special Education, **Tara Plourde**-Grade One, **Elizabeth Ushinski**-Grade Three, **Margaret Welch**-Curriculum/Reading Specialist.

PARKER ROAD PRE-SCHOOL: **Patricia Quinn**-Special Education Speech Pathologist, **Katherine Zimmermann**-School Nurse.

PATON SCHOOL: **Tiffany Back**-Grade Five, **Nicole Bateman**-Grade Two, **Wendy Bell**-Grade Three, **Ann Early**-Grade Two, **Jessica Flinn**-Grade Four, **Lauren Mitsis**-Grade Two.

SPRING STREET SCHOOL: **Kathryn Lewis**-Grade One, **Karen Smith**-Grade Five. District-wide: **Loreen Burton**-Elementary Spanish, **Michael Lapomardo**-Music.

In addition, the district recognized **Judith Rogers**-Principal Beal Early Childhood Center, and **Thomas Kennedy**, Director of Human Resources for their commitment to the district as they both also completed three years of service.

Flu facts

NANCY ALLEN
BOARD OF HEALTH DIRECTOR

The flu is a very contagious disease of the respiratory (breathing) system and is easily passed from one person to another by coughing and sneezing. It is usually very unpleasant, but for most people, symptoms generally get better after 7-10 days.

The flu usually starts very suddenly with: fever (from 102-104 degrees) lasting 3-4 days, headache, severe muscle aches, general weakness/extreme fatigue. These symptoms are accompanied by: dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose.

The flu vaccine provides protection against three strains of influenza virus. There is one strain of the virus that is circulating this year that is somewhat different from one of the strains included in the vaccine. However, the flu vaccine does provide some protection against this different strain.

This year there are two kinds of flu vaccine:

► The flu shot

The flu vaccine that is given as a shot is now in short supply. This vaccine, if available, is now being given to people at highest risk for complications from the flu.

► The nasal-spray flu vaccine

The vaccine that is sprayed into the nose is a weakened live vaccine that can be used only for healthy people ages 5-49.

All people eligible for this vaccine should contact their provider for more information and visit: <http://www.flu-mist.com> for more information about a \$25 rebate for *FluMist*. Many insurance companies are now reimbursing for *FluMist*.

If you have the flu: rest in bed, drink plenty of fluids, take non-aspirin pain relievers such as acetaminophen (e.g. Tylenol) or ibuprofen (e.g. Advil, Motrin, etc.) Children and teens with the flu should *never take aspirin* as they may develop a rare, but serious disease called Reye syndrome. If you have the flu stay home and avoid public activities until your symptoms are resolved (usually 5-7 days), talk with your health care provider if you are considering prescription drugs as they can have serious side effects in some people.

School lunch quiz

What will purchasing lunch tickets do for you and your child?

- A.** Eliminate fumbling for lunch money everyday?
- B.** Help your child have more time to eat lunch by cutting down on time waiting in line?
- C.** Insure your child is spending your money on a nutritious lunch?

If you guessed A, B, or C you are right!

Lunch tickets are available for sale at the School Department Central Office located in Town Hall, Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 5:00pm. Checks or money orders only. No cash will be accepted.

You can also purchase them by mail by sending your check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Food Service Director
Shrewsbury High School,
64 Holden Street,
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
A book of 20 tickets costs \$40
(\$2 per lunch).